

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-03 H-02 ACDA-05

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DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:CDR GRUNAWALT;PM/ISO:JSCOTT:DME

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL

EUR/NE:MR. WORRELL

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R 022314Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

S E C R E T STATE 235496

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, UK

SUBJECT: PHOENIX ISLANDS AGREEMENT

REFS: (A) LONDON 715

(B) LONDON 16462 (1974)

(C) STATE 41700 (1973)

(D) STATE A-510 (1973)

(E) STATE A-4078 (1972)

1. DUE TO TEMPORARY DECREASE IN MISSILE TESTING REQUIREMENTS, USAF HAS DECIDED TO SUSPEND ACTIVE OPERATIONS ON

CANTON ISLAND. BY JULY 1, 1976, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT FACILITY WILL BE MANNED BY APPROXIMATELY TWENTY FIVE CARE-TAKER PERSONNEL, WHO WILL MAINTAIN FACILITY SO AS TO PERMIT RESUMPTION OF MISSILE TESTING AT UNDETERMINED FUTURE DATE. DEACTIVATION PROCESS IS NOW UNDER WAY.

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2. IN VIEW OF SUSPENSION OF ACTIVE OPERATIONS ON CANTON,

WE NOW PERCEIVE LITTLE USEFUL PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS ON A DETAILED IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE CONSIDER THAT 1970 AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT AND 1971 EXCHANGE OF NOTES ADEQUATELY DEFINE US RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN PHOENIX ISLANDS DURING

THE TEN YEAR PERIOD ENDING 9 SEPTEMBER 1980. EMBASSY IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO ADVISE FCO OF SUSPENSION OF ACTIVE OPERATIONS BY USAF IN PHOENIX ISLANDS, AND MAY USE WHATEVER APPROACH DEEMED MOST EFFECTIVE IN SECURING FCO ACQUIESCENCE IN TERMINATION OR AT LEAST SUSPENSION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT. IF PRESSED FOR USG POSITION ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, EMBASSY SHOULD REPLY THAT OUR POSITION REMAINS AS SET FORTH IN REFS C, D AND E.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD FURTHER ADVISE FCO THAT PROSPECTIVE INDEPENDENCE OF GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS (PARA 6, REF A), WILL NOT AFFECT OUR CLAIM AND RIGHTS IN UNINHABITED PHOENIX ISLANDS.

KISSINGER

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